

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

A thrust needle roller bearing (~~10A, 10B~~) has a washer (~~1~~) formed of a thin steel plate and needle rollers (~~2~~), at least said washer (~~1~~) has a nitrogen enriched layer at a surface layer portion, amount of retained austenite in said surface layer portion is at least 5 volume % and at most 25 volume %, and austenite grain number of said surface layer portion is 11 or higher.

Thus, a long life thrust needle roller bearing resistant to an early failure caused by surface damage such as surface-originated flaking and also resistant to common, load dependent rolling contact fatigue can be provided.